

Report from Council ISN Council Meeting II, Paris

August 6, 2003

Officers:

Arne Schousboe, President (AS), Roger Butterworth, Treasurer (RB), Agustina Garcia, Secretary (AG), former President Peter Dunkley (PD), John Clark, Company Secretary and Chairman for Publication Committee (JC), David Shine, Chairman for Internet Committee (DS), Herman Bachelard, Appointed Officer, Historian (HB).

Councillors:

Vera Adam-Vizi (VAV), George DeVries (GDV), Fernando Garcia de Mello (FGM), Gianfrancesco Goracci (GG), Kazuhiro Ikenaka (KI), Mary McKenna (MMK), Polycarp Nwoha (PN), Peter Roberts (PR), Ursula Sonnewald (US), Hermona Soreq (HS), Bernard Zalc (BZ)

Invited participants:

Wendy Maclin, President-elect, ASN (item 5), Alfreda Stadlin, Chairperson LOC 2003 Meeting in Hong Kong, Alois Saria, Chairperson LOC 2005 Meeting in Innsbruck (item 3,4).

Agenda

1. Matters arising from First Council Meeting
2. Matters arising from the Business Meeting
3. Structure of the 2005 Meeting
4. Program Committee 2005
5. Location of 2007 Meeting
6. Composition of ISN Committees
7. Any other business

Ad 1 Matters arising from First Council Meeting

RB presented a projection of the budget for the committees for 2003-2004. A budget for CC and CAEN of 80,000 USD each and for the 2004 Focused Meeting of 150,000 USD was suggested. AS pointed out that the Committees for Aid and Education as well as Conferences would likely encounter an increase in applications and therefore the budget should be increased for both of these committees. It was decided to increase the CAEN and CC budget to 100,000 USD each. These budgets were subsequently accepted.

Ad 2 Matters arising from the Business Meeting

Due to the special circumstances of the GBM taking place without the membership attending the biennial meeting no important matters had arisen from the GBM.

Ad 3 Structure of the 2005 Meeting

It was generally agreed that the format of the Hong Kong Meeting with symposia, colloquia in the morning, posters around the lunch break and colloquia and workshops in the afternoon was a good one. It was emphasized that the young investigator colloquia which had been transformed into general colloquia for the HK Meeting should be reinstated. The reason for this is that it was felt by a majority of Councillors that this would be a means by which one might attract young neurochemists to attend the ISN Meeting. Moreover, several Councillors pointed out that these YIC had been of extremely high quality at the ISN Meeting in Buenos Aires. After a short discussion it was decided to have the following format for the 2005 ISN/ESN Meeting:

Plenary lectures and YIC's in the morning, posters during the lunch break and symposia and workshops in the afternoon. Wednesday afternoon should be kept free of scientific sessions and the banquet should be placed on Friday evening. Satellite Meetings should be placed either before or after the main meeting and they should have a location within a reasonable distance from the venue of the main meeting, i.e. one or two hour flights.

Ad 4 Program Committee for 2005 Biennial ISN/ESN Meeting

Based on the suggestions received from the Councillors prior to the meeting a preliminary composition of the Committee was presented to Council. A short discussion took place and some additional candidates were suggested. Based on this the following preliminary composition of the Committee was agreed upon:

Vera Adam-Vizi	Hungary
Karen Avraham	Israel
Phil Beart	Australia
Roger Butterworth	Canada
Arthur Cooper	USA
Agustina Garcia	Spain
Gianfrancesco Goracci	Italy
Ferdinand Hucho	Germany
Leszek Kaczmarek	Poland
Mark Mattson	USA
Rhona Mirsky	U.K.
Genevieve Rougon	France
Alois Saria	Austria
Arne Schousboe	Denmark
Joerg B. Schultz	Germany
Tomoaki Shirao	Japan
Mark Smith	USA
J. Gregor Sutcliffe	U.K.

AS will present this to the Chairperson (Phil Beart) for comments and further suggestions. It may be possible to add a few more names to the committee. After settling this with Phil Beart the members of the Committee will be formally invited by the President.

Ad 5 Location of 2007 Meeting

The President asked Council to consider whether or not RB should participate in the deliberations concerning the choice of the venue for the 2007 Meeting. It could be argued that since RB is located in Montreal he could be considered to have a conflict of interest. It was the general consensus of the Council that since clearly RB had not been directly involved in the proposal he should be allowed to participate in the discussion. RB announced that he would not participate in the vote but he would like to participate in the debate. This was accepted.

Based on the written proposals received prior to the Council Meetings as well as the presentations given by the individual proposers at Council Meeting I a choice had to be made between 2 excellent proposals. Both venues represent areas in which there is a neuroscience community. However, it appears that the local neuroscience community is somewhat weaker in Mexico compared to Canada (Montreal) and that a meeting held in Mexico would be of great importance for the neurochemistry in Mexico as well as South America. This aspect needs to be considered when a decision is made since one of the aims of having the biennial meeting is to promote neurochemistry in areas where it may be less well developed. The student's fee was also debated as the fee was lower in the proposal from Cancun than that of Montreal, but it was concluded that if necessary the student's fee could be changed. It was also considered by Council that the hotel rates in Cancun were substantially lower than those in Montreal.

Taking these aspects into consideration the issue was put forward to a vote in Council.

The vote on the location of the biennial ISN/ASN meeting in 2007 gave the following result:

In favour of Cancun: 11
In favour of Montreal: 3
Abstentions: 4

Hence, it was decided to have the joint meeting in Cancun 2007. Some concern was raised by a number of Councillors about a higher risk of hurricanes in Mexico by the end of August sooner than in the beginning of August. It was decided to investigate the possibility of having the meeting in the first part of August if indeed the risk of hurricanes would be lower. In this context it also needs to be investigated whether or not a rearrangement might have a significant impact on the cost of the meeting.

Ad 6: Composition of ISN Committees

The officers presented a proposal for the composition of the different committees.

CAEN: Steven Pfeiffer who had acted as chairperson for this committee for the last two years and had handled this very efficiently was suggested to continue as chairperson for this committee for two more years. He had indicated that he would be willing to do so if this was proposed. Hence, he was appointed chairperson of the CAEN Committee.

CC: Considering the fact that the newly elected Councillor (KI) had previously chaired an ISN Program Committee in a very efficient manner he was proposed as chairperson of this committee. This was unanimously accepted by the Council.

Advanced School: Regino Perez-Polo has for the past 6 years chaired this committee in an excellent way; however, it may be time for rotation. AS will contact Eckart Gundelfinger (Germany) and ask if he is willing to chair this committee.

Travel Grant: Vera Adam-Vizi had chaired this committee during the last two years in an excellent way under rather difficult conditions, and she agreed to continue as chairperson for this committee for the next two years.

Nomination Committee: Gianfrancesco Goracci accepted to chair this committee.

Internet Committee: David Shine was reappointed as chairperson.

Publication Committee: John Clark was reappointed as chairperson.

The President raised the question whether there may be a need for committees to handle matters such as proactively recruit new members and to establish more firm contacts with professional societies different from the Sister Societies but with scientific interests matching the ISN. Council agreed that this was reasonable and two committees were proposed: A Membership Search Committee chaired by George DeVries and a Liaison Committee chaired by Hermona Soreq.

The composition of the committees indicated below was agreed upon.

CAEN

Chair: Steven Pfeiffer

Alexander Arutjunyan (Russia)
Herman Bachelard (UK)
Roger Butterworth (Canada; ex officio)
Dusan Dubrota (Slovakia)
Agustina Garcia (Spain; ex officio)
Gianfrancesco Goracci (Italy)
Eckart Gundelfinger (Germany)
Leszek Kaczmarek (Poland)
Mary McKenna (USA)
Julio Moran (Mexico)
Polycarp Nwoha (Nigeria)
Arne Schousboe (Denmark; ex officio)
Bernard Zalc (France)

CC

Chair: Kazihuro Ikenaka (Japan)

Roger Butterworth (Canada; ex officio)
George DeVries (USA)
Agustina Garcia (Spain; ex officio)

Fernando Garcia de Mello (Brazil)
Eckart Gundelfinger (Germany)
Bertrand Lambolez (France)
Peter Roberts (U.K.)
Arne Schousboe (Denmark; ex officio)
Ursula Sonnewald (Norway)
Hermona Soreq (Israel)
Cinzia Volonte (Italy)

Travel Grant

Chair: Vera Adam-Vizi (Hungary)

Roger Butterworth (Canada; ex officio)
Agustina Garcia (Spain; ex officio)
Gianfrancesco Goracci (Italy)
Eckart Gundelfinger (Germany)
Ferdinand Hucho (Germany)
Peter Roberts (U.K.)
Alois Saria (Austria)
Arne Schousboe (ex officio)
Bernard Zalc (France)

Advanced School

Chair: Eckart Gundelfinger (Germany)

Phil Beart (Australia)
Polycarp Nwoha (Nigeria)
Peter Roberts (U.K.)
Alois Saria (Austria)
Hermona Soreq (Israel)

Nomination

Chair: Gianfrancesco Goracci (Italy)

Vera Adam-Vizi (Hungary)
George DeVries (USA)
Kazihuro Ikenaka (Japan)
Ursula Sonnewald (Norway)

Publication Committee

Chair: John Clark (U.K.)

Roger Butterworth (Canada; ex officio)
Brian Collier (Canada)
Stephen K. Fisher (USA)
Agustina Garcia (Spain; ex officio)
Michel Hamon (France)
Sean Murphy (USA)
Arne Schousboe (Denmark; ex officio)
David Shine (USA)
Hermona Soreq (Israel)
Anthony Turner (U.K.)

Internet Committee

Chair: David Shine (USA)

Roger Butterworth (Canada; ex officio)
John Clark (U.K.)
Agustina Garcia (Spain; ex officio)
Rolf Gruetter (USA)
Stanley M. Parsons (USA)
Arne Schousboe (Denmark; ex officio)
David H. Small (Australia)
Hermona Soreq (Israel)

Membership Search Committee

Chair: George DeVries (USA)

Roger Butterworth (Canada; ex officio)
Agustina Garcia (Spain; ex officio)
Arne Schousboe (Denmark; ex officio)

Liason Committee

Chair: Hermona Soreq (Israel)

Roger Butterworth (Canada; ex officio)
Agustina Garcia (Spain; ex officio)
Mary McKenna (USA)
Arne Schousboe (Denmark; ex officio)
Boris Zalc (France)

The meeting ended at 11:30.